

wherein R<sup>1</sup> is an aliphatic hydrocarbon group containing 8-24 carbon atoms or a cycloaliphatic hydrocarbon group containing 8-24 carbon atoms; A is an alkylene group containing at least 3 carbon atoms; m is 0 or an integer of 1 or more, the average thereof being in the range of 0-4, n is 0 or an integer of 1 or more, the average thereof being in the range of 0-3, p is 0 or an integer of 1 or more, the average thereof being in the range of 1-80, (m+n+p) is an integer, the average thereof being in the range of 3-81, and the average of (m+p)/(m+n+p) is at least 0.5; and, in the case of m 0 and n 0, {(C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O)<sub>m</sub>/(AO)<sub>n</sub>} represents block addition or random addition; (ii) having a ratio Mw/Mn of a weight-average molecular weight (Mw) to a number-average molecular weight (Mn) satisfying the following relation (2) or (3):

$$Mw/Mn \leq 0.030 \times \ln(v) + 1.010 \text{ (in case of } v < 10) \quad (2)$$

$$Mw/Mn \leq -0.026 \times \ln(v) + 1.139 \text{ (in case of } v \geq 10) \quad (3)$$

wherein v represents the average of (m+n+p) in the above general formula (1); and (iii) having a distribution constant (c), determined by the following equation (4), of 1.0 or less, this being required only in case of v up to 12:

$$c = (v + n_0/n_{00} - 1) / (\ln(n_{00}/n_0) + n_0/n_{00} - 1) \quad (4)$$

wherein v is the same in the above, n<sub>00</sub> represents the molar number of the aliphatic alcohol (a1) used in the reaction, and n<sub>0</sub> represents the molar number of the aliphatic alcohol (a1) unreacted.

### REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended as carried out under PCT Art. 34 in the corresponding International application to merely overcome an inadvertent typographical error. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that